

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph after the paragraph ending on page 2, line 22:

--Further scope of the applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description given hereinafter. However, it should be understood that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating preferred embodiments of the invention, are given by way of illustration only, since various changes and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from this detailed description.--

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 23, in its entirety.

Please add the following paragraph after the heading beginning on page 2, line 25:

--The present invention will become more fully understood from the detailed description given hereinbelow and the accompanying drawings which are given by way of illustration only, and thus are not limitative of the present invention, and wherein:--

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 26, in its entirety.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16:

--The object of the self-testing procedure 12 is to prevent data loss by using the appropriate refresh interval 10. Thus, during the self-testing procedure 12, an original test code is first written to a plurality of the memory cells 14. The memory cells are then refreshed several

times using the provided refresh interval 16. The saved test code is then read from the memory cell 18, and finally, the saved test code is compared with the original test code 20. An equal result obtained in step 20 indicates that the present refresh interval is sufficient to prevent data loss. An unequal result obtained in step 20 indicates that the present refresh interval is too long to sufficiently prevent data loss.--